

ABSTRACT

A device for collecting and preserving nucleic acids in a sample, the device comprising:
a) a support; b) one or more than one sample zone in the support for loading the sample onto
the device; and c) a composition comprising i) one or more than one absorbent, and ii) one or
5 more than one stabilizer; where the one or more than one sample zone on the support comprises
a recess or space within the support extending from the top surface toward, but not through, the
bottom surface, or comprises a space within the support and the composition is retained within
the sample zone. A method for collecting and preserving nucleic acids in a sample, the method
comprising a) providing a device for collecting and preserving nucleic acids in a sample
10 according to the present invention; b) providing a sample potentially comprising one or more
than one nucleic acid; and c) applying part or all of the sample to one or more than one of the
sample zones on the device. A method of detecting and quantifying nucleic acids in a sample,
the method comprising a) collecting and preserving nucleic acids in the sample according to a
method of the present invention; b) removing the absorbent with sample from the sample zones
15 of the device; and c) detecting, or detecting and quantifying the nucleic acids.